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## SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/08/2019
TAGS: KCFE NATO PARM PREL RS PL

SUBJECT: POLES SKEPTICAL OF RUSSIAN INTENTIONS ON CFE

REF: 08 STATE 133540

Classified By: Acting Political Counselor Craig M. Conway for reasons  $1.4\ (b)$  and (d)

(C) Polish officials in the MFA's Security Policy Department appreciated reftel information on last month's Fried-Antonov discussions on the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty (CFE) but remain skeptical that Russia will change its hard-line position in the near-term. Marek Szczygiel, Deputy Department Director, thought Moscow will wait until the new U.S. Administration takes office before considering next steps in breaking the current CFE impasse. Nonetheless, Szczygiel encouraged continued engagement with the Russians on this issue.

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